

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 04680 110615Z
ACTION NEA-11

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8471

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FOR NEA AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE DUBS ONLY, FROM AMSTUTZ

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PDIP, AF
SUBJ: TRAVEL TO KABUL

REF: A) KABUL 3921, B) STATE 135529

1. I MUCH APPRECIATED RECEIVING YOUR MESSAGE (REF B).
ALSO, ALL OF US HERE WERE SUBSEQUENTLY VERY GLAD TO SEE
THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT OF YOUR NOMINATION.

2. CAN YOU PROVIDE ME WITH YOUR LATEST READING OF YOUR
LIKELY ARRIVAL DATE? WITH JULY 4 COMING UP SOON, I
WOULD PARTICULARLY APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR ADVICE
WHETHER YOU EXPECT TO BE HERE IN TIME TO BE ABLE TO
PRESENT YOUR CREDENTIALS AND HOST OUR OFFICIAL RECEPTION.
WE NEED YOUR RESPONSE BY COB THIS FRIDAY, JUNE
16, IN ORDER TO HAVE TIME TO PRINT AND SEND OUT THE
INVITATION CARDS. OUR CURRENT THINKING IS TO HAVE A
NOON STAG OFFICIAL RECEPTION.

3. ON ANOTHER MATTER, ERSKINE RICE, AND FRED ARELIO
OF PAN AMERICAN HAVE ARRIVED IN KABUL TO ATTEND A
JUNE 10 ARIANA BOARD MEETING. THEY HAVE CALLED ON
AMBASSADOR ELIOT. FOLLOWING THEIR ARIANA BOARD
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MEETING, THEY PLAN TO RETURN TO NEW YORK. SINCE THE
PANAM/ARIANA RELATIONSHIP IS OUR BIGGEST COMMERCIAL
JOINT VENTURE, YOU MAY WANT TO TRY TO SEE ERSKINE
RICE, THE VICE PRESIDENT OF AIRLINE SERVICES, IN
NEW YORK BEFORE YOU COME OUT HERE. HE TOLD US HE
WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO MEET YOU.

4. ON STILL ANOTHER SUBJECT, OUR NEW ADMIN OFFICER, BERNIE WOERZ, HAS JUST INFORMED US THAT HE DOES NOT PLAN TO ARRIVE UNTIL JULY 20. THIS IS A WEEK LATER THAN HE ORIGINALLY ADVISED US. SINCE OUR ADMIN OPERATION IS SUCH A COMPLEX ONE, I FEEL IT IS IMPORTANT THAT HE HAVE SOME OVERLAP WITH OUR DEPARTING ADMIN COUNSELOR, DON WOODWARD, WHO EARLIER HAD ASKED WOERZ TO ARRIVE BY JULY 6 SO WOODWARD COULD LEAVE ON JULY 10. WOERZ'S NEW ARRIVAL DATE GIVES WOODWARD REAL PERSONAL PROBLEMS. I WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING YOU CAN DO TO PERSUADE WOERZ TO COME EARLIER SO AS TO AVOID A GAP BETWEEN THE TWO.

5. AS YOU KNOW, ABASSADOR AND PAT ELIOT LEAVE KABUL JUNE 14. AFTER A SHORT VACATION IN ENGLAND, THEY PLAN TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON ON JUNE 25. THEY HOPE TO SEE YOU BEFORE YOU LEAVE WASHINGTON FOR KABUL.

5. IF THERE IS ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.
ELIOT

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